NEBRASKA
WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For Week Ending May 26, 1996

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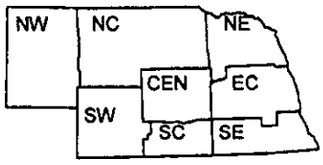

WEATHER

Temperatures for the week averaged relatively close to normals. In the northeast, temperatures were about two degrees below normals while the remainder of the State had average temperatures near the normals. Precipitation was widespread across the State with amounts ranging from about an inch to nearly five inches.

GENERAL

Nebraska producers had excellent fieldwork opportunities for the first part of last week, then rain and more rain halted fieldwork, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Rains were especially welcome in western areas, while some eastern counties experienced problems from too much moisture. Starting at midweek, heavy rains, tornadoes, high winds and hail caused some soil erosion and crop and building damage in eastern areas. Producer activities included planting row crops, grain marketing and livestock care.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 8% very poor, 20% poor, 47% fair, 24% good and 1% excellent. As of Sunday, 89% of the crop had reached the jointing stage, about six days behind last year and average. This compares with 99% jointed last year, and 98% for the five-year average. Wheat headed rated 15% complete, compared to last year's 10% and 43% average. Producers were spraying for weeds and grass.

Corn planting made excellent progress during the first part of the week reaching 95% complete, ahead of last year's 70% and the average of 90%. The crop condition was rated at 2% poor, 23% fair, 68% good, and 7% excellent. Some producers in eastern parts of the State were evaluating fields to see if some earlier planted acreage will need to be replanted due to erosion and crusting. Emergence was rated at 71% complete, considerably ahead of last year's 17% and 60% average.

Soybean planting was in full swing during the first part of the week but was slowed by midweek rains. The crop was 43% planted, ahead of last year's 14%, but behind the five-year average of 53%. The crop was 8% emerged compared with 1% in 1995 and 23% average.

Sorghum planting picked up last week with 38% completed to date. This compares with last year's 7% and the five-year average of 43%.

Oats condition rated 3% poor, 29% fair, 61% good, and 7% excellent.

Dry bean plantings got underway last week with 12% planted to date, compared to 1% last year.

Alfalfa condition rated 1% very poor, 13% poor, 39% fair, 39% good, and 8% excellent. The first cutting was 1% complete compared with 1% last year and 11% for the average. Alfalfa weevils were reported in some north central fields. Wild hay condition rated 1% very poor, 9% poor, 41% fair, 44% good, and 5% excellent.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition was rated 1% very poor, 8% poor, 44% fair, 43% good and 4% excellent. Moisture received last week aided pasture growth. Most producers were moving cattle to summer pastures.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF MAY 26, 1996	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER-AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Planted	98	99	95	96	92	95	98	96	95	83	70	90
% Corn Emerged	80	68	57	70	73	76	83	85	71	43	17	60
% Wheat Jointed	82	72	63	85	85	96	97	94	89	73	99	98
% Wheat Headed	5	3	0	1	16	15	28	42	15	1	10	43
% Sorghum Planted	0	44	48	37	29	48	53	34	38	7	7	43
% Sorghum Emerged	0	2	26	3	10	6	10	1	5	n/a	0	18
% Soybeans Planted	0	68	37	59	41	71	64	46	43	14	14	53
% Soybeans Emerged	0	17	5	17	6	21	12	13	8	1	1	23
% Alfalfa First Cutting	0	0	1	0	1	1	2	2	1	n/a	1	11
% Dry Beans Planted	15	22	5	0	0	4	0	0	12	n/a	1	n/a
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF MAY 24, 1996												
Days suitable	3.9	3.5	3.3	4.4	3.9	5.5	4.4	3.8	3 9	3.0	3.1	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	0	0	0	3	0	5	0	0	1	2	0	
(Percent) - Short	22	2	1	29	2	44	25	1	13	14	0	
- Adequate	63	76	94	61	55	51	75	83	71	72	47	
- Surplus	15	22	5	7	43	0	0	16	15	12	53	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	0	0	0	4	1	16	11	0	3	3	0	
(Percent) - Short	21	9	6	57	20	55	54	42	28	27	0	
- Adequate	78	86	91	35	77	29	35	58	67	68	56	
- Surplus	1	5	3	4	2	0	0	0	2	2	44	

n/a = not available.

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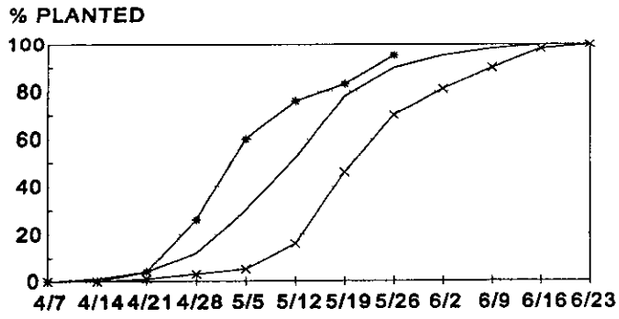
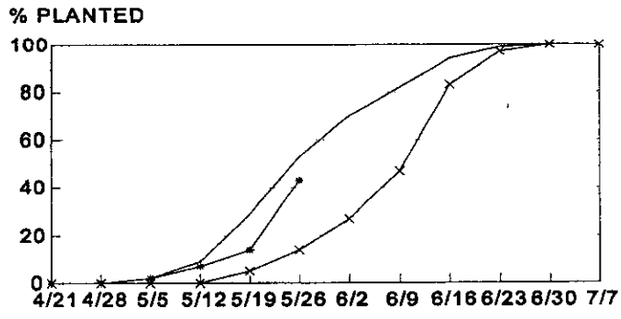
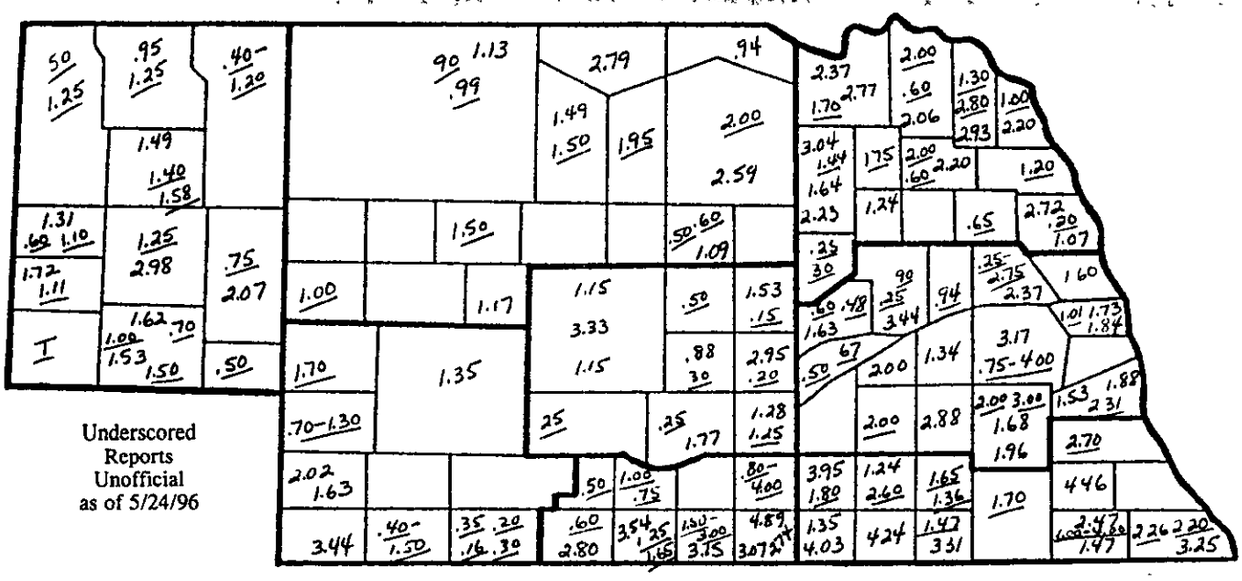
CORN PLANTED



SOYBEANS PLANTED



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1996



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - MAY 25, 1996

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	1.71	1.60	2.21	1.76	2.08	2.11	3.37	2.98
Total since April 1	4.03	3.96	5.05	5.35	8.90	4.04	6.68	9.26
Normal since April 1	4.27	4.87	5.52	5.39	6.14	4.55	5.27	6.10
Total as % of normal	94%	81%	91%	99%	145%	89%	127%	152%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1996

	Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	76	36	54	---	.95	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	77	39	58	0	1.31	320	352	385
	Sidney	76	42	55	---	1.53	287	315	346
NC	Valentine	76	39	57	-3	1.13	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	286	316	339
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	271	311	396
NE	Norfolk	79	47	61	-2	1.24	---	---	---
	Sioux City	81	47	62	-2	2.20	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	277	322	423
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	273	322	391
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	297	355	423
CEN	Grand Island	83	47	63	0	1.28	---	---	---
	Ord	---	---	---	---	---	302	357	415
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	339	397	437
EC	Lincoln	88	49	64	0	1.68	356	434	469
	Omaha	89	50	65	+1	1.73	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	330	394	473
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	338	413	460
SW	Imperial	78	47	60	---	1.63	---	---	---
	North Platte	78	40	59	-1	1.35	332	379	407
	McCook	---	---	---	---	---	350	410	457
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	363	425	441
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	392	472	476
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	390	475	466
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	340	409	448

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.